

Columbus Heralded as One of Top 10 Big Cities For Art

Columbus, OH—The Short North Business Association is pleased to announce that Columbus has been ranked nationally as one of the top 10 big cities for art. The ranking of the nation's top 25 cities with populations of 500,000 or more is featured in the June 2006 issue of *American Style Magazine*. Columbus has perennially made the list, but this is the first top 10 finish. In so doing, Columbus joins the ranks of fellow top 10 cities: New York, Washington DC, Boston, Seattle and Portland. The ranking is based upon reader polls. *American Style* is an art collector's publication which specializes in "Art, Craft, Travel and Interior Design."

Maria Galloway, owner of pm gallery in the Short North, observes: "Columbus' progression up the ranking has closely followed the evolution of the Short North Arts District and arts throughout the city. As the district has matured and the mix of galleries and art offerings has expanded, so has our customer base and profile. This ranking is equivalent to a people's choice award. More and more people are seeking out the Columbus art scene."

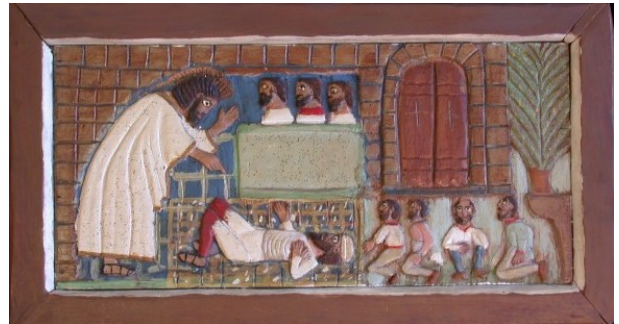
The magazine also ranked American mid-sized cities (populations of 100,000 to 499,999). In that category, two other Ohio destinations were noted: Cleveland ranked 10th and Cincinnati ranked 17th.

The list of best Big Cities (populations over 500,000) for art:

1. New York
2. Chicago
3. Washington, DC
4. San Francisco
5. Boston
6. Seattle
7. Baltimore
8. Philadelphia
9. **Columbus**
10. Portland
11. Austin
12. Los Angeles
13. Milwaukee
14. Denver
15. Phoenix
16. San Diego
17. Dallas/Fort Worth
18. San Antonio
19. Houston
20. Nashville
21. Indianapolis
22. Detroit
23. Memphis
24. Jacksonville
25. San Jose

Coinciding with the street date of the publication, the Short North will celebrate its 250th Gallery Hop on June 3rd, the first Saturday of the month. Over 20,000 attendees are expected as the Arts District highlights the occasion with additional entertainment, art displays and special features. Though shops will be open as early as 11AM, the Gallery Hop is in full swing from 6:00PM - 10:00PM.

For more information, visit www.shortnorth.org



*Elijah Pierce "Take Up Thy Bed and Walk", 1966
...photo courtesy of Lindsay Gallery*



*Curtis Benzle "Floral Grouping: porcelain 6"
...photo courtesy of Sherrie Gallerie*

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